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ORGANIZATION OF THE POLISH STATE GEOLOGICAL SERVICEDrogownictwo

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The great significance of geological problems in the various fields of the national economy, as well as the need to coordinate the various geological operations and scientific research, made it necessary to create a state geological service. The basic regulations establishing the organization of this service and its tasks are contained in the decree dated 8 October 1951 concerning the state geological service (Dziennik Ustaw, No 52, Item 369).

In line with the above-mentioned decree, the tasks of the state geological service include planning and carrying out various geological operations, as well as coordinating and maintaining control over such operations.

The state geological service has the function of preparing balances of all mineral resources, classifying deposits of all mines, keeping records of all geological operations in the country, defining methods and preparing instructions in geology, issuing geological and hydrogeological reports, and analyzing the mineral resources and issuing reports on this subject.

Other tasks of the state geological service are: disseminate information on geology, maintain geological museums, conservation of inorganic natural resources, and cooperate with scientific and economic institutes in this field.

To carry out the above-mentioned tasks on a nationwide scale, the CUG [Centralny Urzad Geologii, Central Geological Office], subordinate to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, was created by the above-mentioned decree of 8 October 1951.

The chairman of the CUG was given limited power to act as a chief authority. In particular, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, by the directive dated 15 July 1952 (Monitor Polski, No A-63, Item 960), empowered the chairman of the CUG to act as the chief authority over the geological offices of the presidiums of the wojewodztwo people's councils. By the directive dated 14 May 1952 (Monitor Polski, No A-68, Item 1033), the Council of Ministers empowered the chairman of the CUG to act as the chief authority over the Geological Institute (Instytut Geologiczny).

A Commission on Mine Resources (Komisja Zasobow Kopalin) was set up in the CUG by the decree concerning the state geological service, while the Scientific and Technical Geological Council (Naukowo-Techniczna Rada Geologiczna) was created to assist the chairman of the CUG. The CUG statute, issued in the resolution of the Council of Ministers dated 26 April 1952 (Monitor Polski, No A-38, Item 552), defines the internal organization and the specific functions of the CUG and the Commission on Mine Resources, and the organization of the Scientific and Technical Geological Council.

According to the intent of the statute, the Bureau of Geological Documentation (Biuro Dokumentacji Geologicznej) functions under the CUG along with the Commission on Mine Resources; and the Enterprise for Geophysical Exploration (Przedsiębiorstwo Poszukiwan Geofizycznych) functions under the chairman of the CUG along with the Geological Institute.

An important power which the Bureau of Geological Documentation has is to demand, through the proper ministries, that all industrial enterprises and institutions working on projects in geology turn in their reports, test data, and the results of their projects to the bureau.

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The tasks of the Geological Institute, which are specified by statute, include one which is particularly important to other ministries, i.e., the preparation of basic documentation and the recording of deposits in areas indispensable to the geological services of the ministries.

The Enterprise for Geophysical Exploration, which is subordinate to the chairman of the CUG, has the job of conducting geophysical operations for the needs of the CUG and the geological services of the ministries.

The local executive organs of the state geological service are the presidiums of the wojewodztwo people's councils, in which geological offices were created by the resolution of the Council of Ministers dated 1 August 1952 (Monitor Polski, No A-63, Item 952). The tasks of these offices are to collect and systematize data concerning the existence of local mine deposits and of hydrogeological and geotechnical materials; to cooperate and give professional assistance in geology, hydrogeology, and geotechnology; to cooperate in the conservation of inorganic natural resources, the maintenance of geological museums, and the popularization of the geological sciences.

The tasks of the state geological service on the ministry level, as regards the various mines and geological and technical reporting, are performed by the ministries concerned, in accordance with the decree concerning the state geological service and in accordance with regulations in force.

The resolution of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers dated 26 September 1952 (Monitor Polski, No A-90, Item 1405), establishes the organization and sphere of operation of the geological services in the ministries.

In accordance with this resolution, a geological service will be created in those ministries whose functions include exploitation of mine deposits or fulfillment of construction, transportation, or public-utility investments requiring geological research. Among others, these include the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation.

According to the principles of the resolution, the geological service of a ministry should consist of a chief geologist of the ministry; chief geologists of interested central administrations; geologists of enterprises exploiting mines and of enterprises planning and executing construction, transportation, or public-utility investments requiring geological research; and geologists of enterprises or operational geological offices in enterprises performing geological projects.

The sphere of operation of the geological enterprises of the ministries, according to the intent of the resolution, should be dependent on the needs of a ministry, and include the following:

1. Preparation of geological studies for purposes of planning the exploitation of mine deposits and for planning construction, transportation, and public-utility investments.
2. Fulfillment of the following operations necessary for the above-mentioned studies: excavating, mining, and drilling work, laboratory research, and geodetic measurements.

In the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation, the resolution anticipates the creation of geological offices in the ministry headed by chief geologists in the two interested central administrations, the Central Administration of Quarries and Highway Clinker Plants (Centralny Zarzad Kamienio-lomow i Klinkierni Drogowych) and the Central Administration of Public Highways (Centralny Zarzad Drog Publicznych). The resolution also anticipates

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the creation of the position of geologist in the Central Office of Studies and Projects of Highway and Air Transportation (Centralne Biuro Studiow i Projektow Transportu Drogowego i Lotniczego).

With the creation in the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation, by a resolution of the Council of Ministers dated 24 January 1953, of a new Central Administration of Highway and Bridge Construction (Centralny Zarzad Budowy Drog i Mostow), it was also necessary to create in this central administration a geological office directed by a chief geologist.

The sphere of operations of the geological service of the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation should, in accordance with the resolution, include geotechnical and hydrogeological matters, geological service involving rock-formation deposits exploited by enterprises of the ministry, as well as ensuring continuing mine resources for these enterprises.

Geological problems are important in the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation because two of the main functions of the ministry, namely, construction and maintenance of public highways and the exploitation of quarries, require the assistance of geology. Therefore, organizing a geological service in the ministry within the framework established by the resolution is of immeasurable importance.

As regards the central office of the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation, the organizational statute of the resolution of the Council of Ministers dated 1 July 1953 set up the position of a chief geologist who is not attached to any department but is subordinate directly to the minister (or deputy minister). The task of the chief geologist will be to direct all work of the ministry's geological service and put into effect within the ministry the regulations specified in the above-mentioned resolution of 26 September 1952.

It is important to note that the resolution does not anticipate positions of geologists in the individual enterprises of the quarries or in the offices subordinate to the Central Administration of Public Highways. This probably reflects the scarcity of available cadres of geologists. Therefore, in the Central Administration of Public Highways, the Central Administration of Highway and Bridge Construction, and the Central Administration of Quarries and Highway Clinker Plants, the geological offices should be capable of adequately performing both general and operational work.

The resolution of 26 September 1952 does not make it necessary to create a geological enterprise within the framework of the Ministry of Highway and Air Transportation, but makes it possible to use the service of such an enterprise already existing within the building materials industry.

Due to the diversity of problems and operations in the field of geology in a ministry, the creation of such an enterprise, especially in the Central Administration of Quarries and Highway Clinker Plants, appears to be particularly desirable.

Such an enterprise would include among its functions not only geological service for the enterprises subordinate to the Central Administration of Quarries and Highway Clinker Plants, but would also service the needs of other central administrations of the ministry and of offices subordinate to them.

It is also necessary for the geological service of the ministry to cooperate as much as possible with institutes of the state geological service outside the ministry, such as the Geological Institute, the Office of Geological Documentation of the CUG, and the geological offices of the presidiums of the wojewodztwo people's councils.

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The ministry should also endeavor to develop adequate cadres of geologists for the needs of highway and road construction and for exploitation of quarries, and to have them participate through their own representatives in the work of the various geological institutes, such as the Commission of Mine Resources, the Scientific and Technical Geological Council, and the Scientific Council of the Geological Institute.

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